

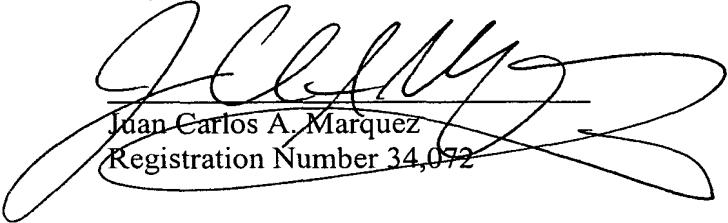
**REMARKS**

Applicant has deleted claims 1-16 and added claims 17-28.

In view of the above amendments and Applicant's comments stated herein, Applicant respectfully requests an early and favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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